Abstract of the Invention

The invention provides an electrochemical cell which comprises a first electrode and a second electrode which is a counter electrode to said first electrode. The first electrode comprises a phosphorous compound of the nominal general formula $Li_3E'_aE''_b(PO_4)_3$, desirably at least one E is a metal; and preferably, $Li_3M'M''(PO_4)_3$. E' and E" are the same or different from one another, where at least one of E' and E" has more than one oxidation state.